

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 remain pending in the present application. Claim 1 has been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, drawings, and claims as originally filed.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER §103

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-3, 8-11, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) alleging them to be unpatentable over Vannuvel in view of Grant et al. The Examiner alleges that this combination discloses Applicant's invention.

Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 1 further defines the retaining member to be rotatable to change orientation of the retaining member. The retaining member is lockable in at least two positions.

The art relied on by the Examiner, specifically Vannuvel in view of Grant et al., failed to disclose or suggest Applicant's invention. Vannuvel illustrates bolts having wing nuts which pass through a manual handle and saw blade. The bolts never change their orientation when they are passed through the handle in the saw blade. Only the saw blade moves with respect to the bolts during manipulation. The Grant et al. reference illustrates a clamp which includes a cutout to position a saw blade. The saw blade can be removed and then rotated to change the positions of the saw blade. Thus, the saw blade is manipulated to change the orientation of the saw blade. In Applicant's invention, the rotation of the retaining member changes the orientation of the saw blade. This is neither suggested nor disclosed by the cited art. Accordingly,

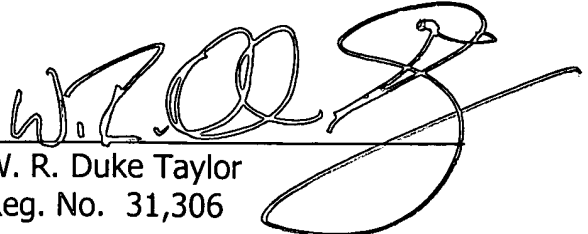
Applicant believes Claim 1, as well as Claims 2-14 which depend from Claim 1, to be patentably distinct over the art cited by the Examiner.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-11, 13 and 14, alleging them to be unpatentable over Huang in view of Grant. The Huang reference cited by the Examiner, in combination with Grant, fails to disclose or suggest Applicant's invention. The Huang reference, like the Vannuvel reference, has a retaining member which maintains the same orientation during operation. Thus, Huang, in view of Grant, likewise fails to disclose or suggest Applicant's invention as now claimed. Accordingly, Applicant believes Claims 1-14 to be patentably distinct over the art cited by the Examiner.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass the case to issue at his earliest possible convenience. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present application, he should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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